

## Message Text

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FEDERAL PREPARADNESS AGENCY-GSA

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 4340

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MPOL, NATO

SUBJ: SURVIVABILITY OF NATO HEADQUARTERS

REF: A. STATE 191058; B. USNATO 3941

1. WE PROPOSE THE FOLLOWING REPLY TO DSYG PANSA'S LETTER  
TRANSMITTED BY REF B. REQUEST WASHINGTON COMMENTS BY AUG. 25.

2. BEGIN TEXT.

IN REPLY TO YOUR LETTER OF JULY 17, I OUTLINE IN THIS LETTER  
THE UNITED STATES' POSITION ON THE QUESTION OF SURVIVABILITY  
OF NATO HEADQUARTERS.

AS YOUR LETTER INDICATED, WE HAVE CONSISTENTLY  
FAVORED A RELOCATION ALTERNATIVE. THIS DOES NOT MEAN MY  
AUTHORITIES DO NOT SHARE A STRONG BELIEF THAT PROVISION MUST  
BE MADE FOR CONTINUITY OF THE ESSENTIAL OPERATIONS OF THE NAC/DPC  
AND MILITARY COMMITTEE IN TIME OF TENSION, CRISIS OR WAR. HOWEVER,  
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FOR MANY REASONS WE BELIEVE THAT CONSTRUCTING A HARDENED SITE HERE  
AT EVERE IS NOT THE BEST WAY TO PROVIDE FOR THIS CONTINUITY. COST  
FACTORS, POLITICAL IMPLICATIONS, AND VULNERABILITY OF A FIXED SITE,  
EVEN IF PROTECTED, ARE IMPORTANT CONSIDERATIONS IN OUR POSITION.

A RELOCATION ALTERNATIVE WOULD ENTAIL, IN OUR VIEW PRIMARILY A PLANNING EFFORT. FIRST, SEVERAL POSSIBLE SITES SHOULD BE SELECTED FOR USE, DEPENDING ON THE PARTICULAR CIRCUMSTANCES IN A CRISIS. HOTELS PROVIDE AMPLE FACILITIES FOR USE BY THE NAC/DPC/MC AND SUPPORTING STAFF. WE SUGGEST PICKING TWO OR THREE IN THE BELELUX AREA, WITH AT LEAST ONE IN OR NEAR BRUSSELS AND PERHAPS ANOTHER IN THE OSTEND"ZEEBRUGE AREA. A COUNTRY CHATEAU MIGHT ALSO BE AN APPROPRIATE OPTION FOR RELOCATION.

SECOND, SITES OF THIS TYPE WOULD REQUIRE, AS A MINIMUM, MOBILE COMMUNICATIONS. IT MAY ALSO BE NECESSARY TO PROVIDE FOR EMERGENCY SERVICES SUCH AS ELECTRICAL POWER AND WATER, IF NOT OTHERWISE AVAILABLE. MOBILE COMMUNICATIONS VANS SHOULD BE AVAILABLE ON SHORT NOTICE, LOCATED AND MAINTAINED NEAR BRUSSELS OR SHAPE. THE EXTENT OF MOBILE COMMUNICATIONS NECESSARY WOULD HAVE TO BE THE SUBJECT OF A SEPARATE NATO STUDY. PROVIDING AND MAINTAINING THIS EQUIPMENT WOULD INVOLVE SOME EXPENSE, THOUGH NOT NEARLY ON THE SCALE OF A PROTECTED SITE. THE NATO MILITARY AUTHORITIES OR NATIONS MIGHT BE ABLE TO MAKE MOBILE COMMUNICATIONS AVAILABLE.

THIRD, CONSIDERATION OF ADDITIONAL POSSIBLE RELOCATION SITES OUTSIDE THE BENELUX AREA SHOULD ALSO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT, WE BELIEVE, NATIONAL OR NATO MILITARY INSTALLATIONS WHOSE FACILITIES MIGHT BE UTILIZED. THESE INSTALLATIONS, ALTHOUGH FARTHER AWAY, MIGHT BE MOST APPROPRIATE UNDER SOME CRISIS CIRCUMSTANCES AND WOULD HAVE COMMUNICATIONS AND OTHER SERVICES ALREADY AVAILABLE.

IN ADDITION TO THE ABOVE, SEPARATE PLANNING SHOULD BE CARRIED OUT FOR RECONSTITUTION OF THE NAC/DPC/MC IN A LESS VULNERABLE NATO CAPTIAL TO RE-ESTABLISH FUNCTIONS OF THE NAC/DPC/MC IN THE EVENT OF THE EXTREME CIRCUMSTANCE THAT RELOCATION OF THE PERMANENT COUNCIL CANNOT BE SUCCESSFULLY ACCOMPLISHED.

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I AM PROVIDING A COPY OF THIS LETTER TO THE OTHER MEMBERS OF THE AD HOC COMMITTEE.

END TEXT.STREATOR

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